

Date Mailed January 26, 2001
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BEFORE THE  
  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN

Application of Northern States Power Company, Wisconsin, for Authority  
to Construct and Render Natural Gas Service in the Town of Warren,  
St Croix County, Wisconsin

4220-CG-131

**NOTICE OF PROCEEDING,  
INVESTIGATION AND ASSESSMENT OF COSTS  
AND ORDER TO CONSOLIDATE**

**THIS IS A PROCEEDING** to consider the April 17, 2000, application of Northern States Power Company, Wisconsin (NSP-WI), as a gas public utility, for authority under Wis. Stat. § 196.50 and Wis. Admin. Code ch. PSC 133, to construct facilities and provide natural gas service in portions of the town of Warren, St. Croix County, Wisconsin.

NSP-WI is a public utility as defined in Wis. Stat. § 196.01(5)(a), with its principal office at 1414 Hamilton Ave., Eau Claire, Wisconsin. NSP-WI is engaged in the business of distributing and selling natural gas to approximately 82,000 customers in 69 communities located in eleven counties in Wisconsin and two counties in Upper Michigan.

NSP-WI has requested authority to provide natural gas service in sections 31 through 34, south of Interstate 94 in the town of Warren, St. Croix County. The area is contiguous with NSP-WI service territory in the town of Hudson, St. Croix County; however, the requested area is currently within Midwest's authorized service area.

The Commission previously granted Midwest Natural Gas, Inc. (Midwest) a Certificate of Authority (CA) to serve customers in the town of Warren, St. Croix County in docket 3670-CG-108 dated August 1, 1991. Midwest currently serves approximately 181 customers in the town of Warren, St. Croix County.

The Commission is jointly considering three applications to provide natural gas service in the town of Kinnickinnic, St. Croix County. These applications are docketed as 4220-CG-130 for NSP-WI, 3670-CG-114 for Midwest, and 5230-CG-102 for St. Croix Valley Natural Gas Company (St. Croix). The town of Kinnickinnic is adjacent to the town of Warren.

On April 25, 2000, NSP-WI requested that the Commission consolidate NSP-WI's application to serve Warren with its application to serve Kinnickinnic. Neither Midwest nor St. Croix commented on the request. At its January 23, 2001, open meeting, the Commission authorized the consolidation of these applications for administrative efficiency and reserved the

option to decide at a later date whether to consolidate these applications into one case for decision. NSP-WI is directed to submit information that will permit the Commission to consider its Warren application as either a stand-alone project or in combination with its Kinnickinnic application.

**NOTICE IS GIVEN** that the Commission considers it necessary, in order to carry out its duties, to investigate all books, accounts, practices, and activities of the applicant. The expenses incurred or to be incurred by the Commission which are reasonably attributable to such an investigation will be assessed against and collected from the applicant in accordance with the provisions of Wis. Stat. § 196.85 and Wis. Admin. Code ch. PSC 5.

This is a Type III action under Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 4.10(3). Since no unusual circumstances have come to the attention of the Commission, which indicate that significant environmental consequences are likely, neither an environmental impact statement under Wis. Stat. § 1.11 nor an environmental assessment is required.

The Commission does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the provision of programs, services, or employment. Any person with a disability who needs accommodations to participate in this proceeding or who needs to obtain this document in a different format should contact the case coordinator listed below.

Questions regarding this matter may be directed to case coordinator John R. Vogt at (608) 267-3374.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin, \_\_\_\_\_

By the Commission:

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Lynda L. Dorr  
Secretary to the Commission

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